



AN HISTORICAL STUDY OF DEVELOPMENT AND GROWTH IN LYALLPUR FROM 1890 TO 1979

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<p>ARTICLE INFO</p> <p>Keywords: Lyallpur, development, historical buildings, Faisalabad, architecture</p> <p>Corresponding Author: Dr. Mansoor Ahmed, Assistant Professor, Department of History, Government College University, Faisalabad Email: mansoorahmed@gcuf.edu.pk</p>	<p>ABSTRACT</p> <p>This article traces the historical evolution of Lyallpur since it was developed by Sir James Lyall in 1890 till 1979 when it was renamed as Faisalabad to honor King Faisal bin Abdul Aziz of Saudi Arabia by General Zia ul Haq, the military dictator. Lyallpur was initially a British canal colony project. It was meticulously planned with a unique urban layout centered around the iconic Clock Tower (Ghanta Ghar) and its radiating Eight Bazaars, symbolizing colonial control and civic order. Landmarks such as the Lyallpur Railway Station, Chenab Club, and Jinnah Garden (formerly Company Bagh) played pivotal roles in shaping the city's civic, cultural, and economic life. These structures not only reflected colonial architectural aesthetics but also facilitated connectivity, trade, and social interaction in the growing town. Following independence, Lyallpur underwent significant changes, culminating in its renaming as Faisalabad in 1979. The city expanded rapidly, transitioning from its agricultural roots to become the textile hub of Pakistan, often referred to as the "Manchester of Pakistan." This transformation was driven by infrastructural development, state planning, rural migration, and industrial investment. The article examines how Faisalabad's unique spatial layout, institutional landmarks, and socio-economic changes collectively shaped its modern identity. By exploring the legacy of colonial planning alongside postcolonial growth, this study presents Faisalabad as a model of urban and industrial transformation in South Asia.</p>
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INTRODUCTION

British want the colonies to be made economically profitable and India was the first amongst the entire British rule where made a conscious effort the make problems solvable by using technology and applied sciences, one of the major problems of that region was the mapping of huge population

so in this regard British made new colonies and new cities and Lyallpur was one of them. Sandal Bar is the milestone in the history of Punjab. Its history is old as the history of Punjab. Before the formation of Pakistan, the region of Faisalabad was called more barren and desolate than other cities. The area was known as "Sandal Bar ". Farmers, labors and landlords who migrated from Punjab turned the desolation of Sandal Bar into lush green fields. At least 120 years ago, this area was spread over forests. Also known as "Sandal Bar ", the area between the Ravi and Chenab rivers was not suitable for farming. So, the people who came here with their blood and sweat made the area green.ⁱThe land between river Ravi and river Chenab was waste land and studded with thick forest, known as ' Sandal Bar ' after a Hindu it was named Sandal, later it converted from Sandal Bar to ' Sandal Bar '. The area between the river Chenab and Ravi Rivers is called "Rachna Doab " Zaigham Pasha writes: "The Sandal Bar derived its name from Sanda or Sandar the head of Khokhar tribe, which dominated the area about 320 B.C. The reason for the Sandal Bar is that there are three different traditions about the designation. One is that Dula Bhatti's grandfather name was Bijli Khan also Sandal, the other was the name of the dacoit chief of the Hills of shahkot was also Sandal and the third is that the name of the chief of the jungles was Chauhar Khan Alias Sandal. The area became known as Sandal Bar after one of the three".ⁱⁱ From the beginning of the 7th century Rajput Kingdoms were present at the Eastern side of Pakistan and present Northern India. In 997 CE Sultan Mahmud Ghaznavi, took over the sequence of power constitute by his father, Sultan Sebuktegin, in 1005 he overthrow the Hindu Shahis in Kabul in 1005, and chase it by the conquests of some Western Punjab region. Eastern regions of Punjab from Multan to Rawalpindi remained under Rajput rule until 1193. It was then brought under the control of the Delhi sultanate and then the Mughal Empire. This area that is called Faisalabad gradually developed and many Muslim Sufi missionaries converted the local population to Islam. During the reign of the Mughal Empire the population and cultivation of this land increased. During Mughal rule, Sikhs gained power and after the fall of Mughal power they remained. In power in parts of Punjab and Sandal Bar for a short period of time before British government took over the whole area. After Jahangir death Guru Hargobind came into conflict with the provincial authorities of the Punjab and defeated them on four occasions. He was now looked as a hero.ⁱⁱⁱAfter the end of Mughal era, the Sikhs of Punjab attacked and conquer this region from 1765 to 1846.as a universal rule Sikhs the conqueror imposed many restrictions of Muslims of that region which includes social, economic, and educational. Lyallpur was also included in the areas of battlefield between

British and Sikhs armies. On contrary to that the British annexed Punjab on 22 February 1849 without any main battle and declared their rule on Punjab and sandal bar also came under their control.^{iv} In the 1870s the colonial Punjab Government decided to increase the cultivated land by making barrages and canals to meet the demand at Europeans markets. This led to the canal-based irrigation of the areas now comprising the district of Lyallpur. In 1880, a colonial officers Captain Poham Young, with the support of Sir James Broadwood Lyall, proposed a new town. The architecture of mock canals allowed the border areas to be irrigated. The town grew speedy as farmers settled on newly diffuse land. A huge amount of settlers came from altered areas of Punjab above all from Ludhiana, Jalandhar and Ambala on the affirmation of large agricultural lands. With the large horizontal distribution of land the canal irrigated areas of Sandal Bar soon became populated. This ledge to a fast radical change of the vagrant atmosphere of the Bar into a more agriculture based one. In 1896, Lyallpur was a given the status of a Tehsil of the Jhang District. Now this study will discuss the famous architectural building that were developed in Lyallpur. *Gumti* is one of the famous structure of Faisalabad. It was built during the British era this building has a history in it. When Queen Victoria of Great Britain was to visit Lyallpur, the British rulers here had this building specially constructed for the grand reception of the Queen. The River Chenab used to flow through the place where this Gumti has been built. This colonial eight-door Gumti is a short historical building of Faisalabad city. The color of the English architecture with 16 pillars stands out. A domed roof on pillars is also noticeable. Gumti had a long row of 12 stairs.^v There is a small anatomy on Gumti Circular Road, which was built in 1897. A statuette of Queen Victoria was built in the middle of it. Standing right in the center of the city, it reminds the visitor of the extent to which the British government had control over the region. Along with the construction of the Clock Tower and *Qaiseri* Gate. It was also completed in 1897. It is also one of the oldest buildings, Gumti in the middle of which there is a bowl shape building around which this inscription is written "The blessings of the river was given". The old name of Gumti is *gumbadhi* and the current name is Gumti. It is a colonial building outside the Rail Bazar opposite the Qaiseri Gate. The year of construction is not written anywhere on the Gumti but according to the Lyallpur Museum it was built in 1897 A.D. If the city is considered a union Jack, it is a flag lying on the ground. In the middle of it there is a rumor in the shape of a bowl. Earlier Gumti Chowk was called VMC (Victoria Memorial Clock tower and Qaiseri Gate are attributed to Queen Victoria while Gumti is the only building attributed to the Soil and Culture of Sandal Bar. It is

Gumti on the fountain of Gumti, "blessings of the river *Chanhan Di*"^{vi} *Eight Bazaars* are also a significant feature of Lyallpur city. Around the clock tower famous eight bazaar surrounded by *ghanta ghar* which are similar to the union jack flag of British in Ariel view which is still the epicenter of economy of the city the famous eight bazaar are as under: Rail bazaar, *Kutchery* bazaar, Karkhana bazaar, Montgomery bazaar, Jhang bazaar, Bhawana bazaar, Aminpur bazaar and Chiniot bazaar. These eight-bazaar covered total area of 110 acres and connected to one another through a circular road called "GOL BAZAAR", Rail bazaar: Rail bazaar was given the name because its directing toward railway station, this bazaar is famous for gold smiths and fine quality suiting. *Kutchery* bazaar: *Kutchery* bazar was given the name because its directing towards district *kutchery* it is famous for electronic market like mobiles phones and other electronic gadgets. Karkhana bazaar Karkhana bazaar was given the name because in leading toward industrial area and this bazaar is famous for its loom factories and white cloth.^{vii} Montgomery bazaar: Montgomery bazaar was given the name because it's directing towards Montgomery district and its famous for yarn market and whole sale of commodities good. Jhang bazaar: Jhang bazaar was named after its direction towards district Jhang, this bazaar is famous multiple purpose market like clothes, kitchen utensils, fruits and Vegetables etc. Bhawana bazaar: Bhawana bazaar was given the name its direction towards tehsil bhawana and it is famous for lady's clothes and makeup markets. Aminpur bazaar: Aminpur bazaar was given the name to its direction towards Aminur it is famous for books and printing its related material. Chiniot bazaar: Chiniot bazaar was given the name because its direction towards Chinoit and it is famous for its whole sale medicine market. The most significant structure of the Lyallpur is Clock tower. Whereever Faisalabad is mentioned, one cannot ignore its famous buildings. Faisalabad was not more than a few years old when the foundation of the clock tower was laid by Sir Charles Rivaz on 14 November 1903. It's red bricks bear testimony to the fact that this historical text is written on it. "This stone was laid by his honor Sir Charles Rivaz lieutenant Governor Punjab on November, 14, 1903". The place where the clock tower has been built, there used to be a few banyan trees in this place. Sitting under its dense shade, Popham Young used to build the clock tower on the site where the clock tower was built. There was once a well at this site which was dug in 1890 and was in use till 1897. According to a tradition, taps were also installed around the well for the convenience of people and a machine was also used to draw water from the well. This well was in used till 1897. A Hindu was sitting on the side of this well who used to sell these paats and cooked gram to the people. But

unfortunately, its water was not suitable for drinking, and there was a very sweet one beyond Jinnah bagh on the side of *Pakki Maari* to get water. The water of which was very sweet, later this well came to be known as *Thandi khoi*. This well is also present at new soul lines, Bilal Road.^{viii}

The journey of construction of the clock tower started on 14 November 1903 and was completed on 13 December 1905. The new financial commissioner of Punjab, Lewis Tupper, csi (companion of the star of India), in the presence of a large number of Lyallpur, climbed the stairs from the main gate of the clock tower and waved his hand from the balcony to the citizens to wake up for its construction, thank you for bearing the burden of expenses of 40000 rupees. There is a beautiful square in the middle of the city, with a clock tower in the middle and 8 Bazar around it, which apart from being of the same pattern are spacious and beautiful and the engineer who made the map has built the clock house in such a way that it has four clock but shows the full time in each of Bhawana bazar, Aminpur Bazar, karkhana Bazar, kachari Bazar, rail Bazar, Montgomery Bazar and Chiniot Bazar. All kinds of business are done in all these Bazars have a good atmosphere. There are two big and heavy grain markets in this place, one is the old market which is between the factory market, the other market is in Chiniot market. Faisalabad was built in memory of Queen Victoria. The Faisalabad clock tower to be built in memory of Queen Victoria was suggested by the then deputy commissioner Jhang captain Baig. Before the construction of the clock tower, there was a well at this place which was filled with soil from Chak Ram Diwali located five kilometers away on Sargodha Road. The clock tower was founded by Sir Charles Rivaz, then British Governor. And it was designed by Poham Young in collaboration with Sir Ganga Ram. Its architect was Gulab Khan. The early map of the city, modeled on the British flag, the clock tower and the adjacent eight markets are a reminder of the British Rule on the land of Pakistan. Which is the commercial center of the city at present. Red colored stone was brought from the hill of Sangla Hill to give Mughal style color to the construction of the 100 feet high clock tower. Which was located at a distance of 50km. Its marble was sourced from different parts of Agra. The artisans also came from Agra. These artisans were from the generation of artisans who built the Taj Mahal. On the fourth floor of the historical important clock tower, the ancestry Gharalvi have a historical background. Which were specially brought from Mumbai.^{ix}

The clock tower also has a large bell that rings every hour. Which adds to its beauty. Inside, stairs are built to reach each floor, which are also used to key the clock. This building was inaugurated by the financial commissioner of Punjab Lewis Tupper. "This tower was opened by

the Honble Sir Levis Tupper C.S.I.K.C.I.E. Financial Commissioner Punjab on December 13, 1905. The Clock Tower is a symbol of the grandeur of this city. Not because in terms of its height, the Jamia is surpassing the minarets of the Masjid. But also because a person who is busy in the hustle and bustle of life tells this story every moment and every moment. Standing on the ground floor inside the clock house, one gets fascinating and absorbing views. The cube shaped and gigantic momentum building is surrounded by beautiful designed airy wooden arched latticework that is a testament to his unique architecture style. The white gauze on these nets adds to its charm. On the outside of ground floor there are plaques in Gurmukhi, Hindu, English and Urdu to commemorate Queen Victoria. "The residents of Chenab Canal built this Clock house in memory of Queen Victoria Qaiser Hind".

First Floor: The number of stairs to this floor are ten, the second one is broken from the left side, along with the stairs there is an iron design grill. The length of the first staircase is about one foot Nine and half inches, width ten and a half inches. There is no ventilation net of any kind on all four sides of this scene.

Second Floor: The number of stairs to this floor is thirteen and the length, weight and height of the first stair is exactly equal to the first stair of the first floor. Its second staircase is also broken on the left side along with the stairs there is a beautiful wrought iron grill surrounded by a beautiful and attractive dark red cement ventilated mesh.^x **Third Floor:** The number of steps is ten. The length of first step is about one foot Nine and half inches, the width is two inches from the top to the bottom on the right side, fourteen inches on the left side and the height is ten inches. Air white windows framed by ornate wooden lattice surrounded the balconies. **Fourth Floor:** There are four big clocks on the same floor and on the outside, there are signs of Iman, *Ithad*, and Organization. Eight loudspeakers are installed all around just above the structures, from which different types of sounds are here throughout the day.

Gharial:

The four beautiful clocks around the clock house attract the hearts of the tourist. These clocks are visible from four major bazars Chiniot Bazar, Kachari Bazar, Karkhana Bazar, and Jhang Bazar with full time. The time is not visible from the four markets but the time can be estimated. The paradise company of Bombay was authorized to install the *Gharial* all in the Clock house. At Pittman, the manager of the company, himself came and installed the Clocks.^{xi} The dignitary's letter is of the city game ample rewards. When the clock tower was built, all the members of sub-

committee were made honorary magistrates on the recommendation of Mr. Emerson (the first Deputy Commissioner of the area). The building is a priceless masterpiece of the labor of a few Muslim craftsmen from Agra and Rajputana. About 40 thousand rupees were spent on the completion of this building. According to a tradition 98 thousand were collected from the public. Another tradition is that 8 lakh rupees were spent on the completion of the tower. Tower was borne by Hafiz Muhammad Abdullah, Mian Noorullah and colonial Ali Altaf.

COMPANYBAGH (NOW JINNAH BAGH)

Companybagh was constructed in 1904 by British government Company main parks in the Faisalabad city commonly known as *Jinnahbagh* in 1900 it was given the name of Jinnah bagh. The park also has the burial of H.E Sir Charles James Lyall, who was known to be the architect of this town and the city was first named Lyallpur in his reward. However, later in 1960 it was renamed to the assassinated king of Saudi Arabia Shah Faisal to Faisalabad.^{xii}

Allama Iqbal Library

Allama Iqbal Library is located near District Court and District Council Offices. Earlier it was called Coronation Library, it is reminiscent of the ceremonial Coronation of George V. It was named People's District Library during the British Rule. But now it has been named Allama Iqbal Library after the late poet Dr. Muhammad Iqbal. The foundation stone of this library was laid on 24 January 1912 by Mr. MW Douglas CIE Deputy Commissioner Faisalabad. This library is made of red bricks and wood. And on December 14, 1914, the library was opened to the public in its small building. Initially all its expenses were borne by District Board Faisalabad. Later, the Municipal Committee and some philanthropists of the city also participated in this charity. At present, all its expenses are met by District Council Faisalabad. Before the establishment of Pakistan, Mr. Abdul Rahim ICS Deputy Commissioner Faisalabad, who was ex officio the chairman of the Management Committee of the Library added a chapter on its health and administrative affairs in 1944-45 with his personal interest and attention. They arranged full-time librarians. Revised its rules and regulations. The number of books increased considerably. Established a reserve fund and extended the library building. Other eminent personalities of the city were also persuaded to participate in the development of the library.^{xiii}

Qaiseri Gate:

Mohan Lal Hindu merchant of Lyallpur founded the new city in 1896 A.D. and in celebration of the 60th anniversary of Queen Victoria coronation in 1897. The Gate consists of a central passage

and two smaller entrances on the right and left sides. The cobbled square in front of it was called VMC (Victoria Memorial *Chowk*). The base stone of *Qaiseri Gate* was laid in 1896. This gate was built by Lala Mohan Lal's son of Dr Bihari Lal, in the year of foundation of city the Commemorate 1897 Faisalabad (Check No. 212). *Qaiseri Gate* was built at the beginning of Rail Bazar in the name of Queen Victoria. On the left side of this door, this inscription is still there today. "This gate was built by Lala Mohan Lal Khalaf Dr. Bihari Lal in the year of foundation of Lyallpur city in 1897". The entrance itself is made of reinforced concrete and painted pale yellow and light brown to give it a Mughal look. The gate's original markings are still viewable with the name and the date of construction.

Railway Station

The railway line to Faisalabad was started in 1895 AD. In 1896 AD it was opened to Faisalabad. In 1898 AD the Railway line was laid from Wazirabad to Faisalabad. Late this Railway line was extended to Shorkot. This increased the importance of Faisalabad. In 1899 AD it was opened to Toba Tek Singh. And in 1900 AD it was merged with Khanewal.^{xiv} The building is lavishly designed the popular Western architecture style of the Victorian era. The railway station of Faisalabad is of British colonial era construction. It was built in the late 19th century. The architecture of the station reflects the influence of the British raj. The grand entrance to the railway station was designed according to the ancient Greek style with long pillars and smaller ones on either side supporting the building. It's distinctive red brick buildings with Victorian-style elements such as arched windows, high ceiling and the unique design of the clock tower, station make it a prominent landmark in Faisalabad. And it has been recognized as a historical heritage by the government of Pakistan. The British and many rulers and diplomatic ambassadors used this railway station. This method was adopted by the Great Western architects from the Renaissance to the Victorian period in the Middle Ages. The total expenditure on this project was 77 lakh 41 thousand rupees. The average cost per mile was 38 thousand 600 rupees. Along with the construction of the railway station, the Munshi Mohalla and the circular road were built. Faisalabad Railway Station is the famous station of this area. From this station, high speed vehicles for Karachi, Lahore and Peshawar, are often available. But in the beginning only one vehicle was taken to Wazirabad. In 1899 AD, the first vehicle that traveled from Wazirabad to Faisalabad had engine number eight. And in this engine, wood was burned instead of coal. His driver's name was Ghulam Rasool, but common people called him Lasso. The first station master of Faisalabad

station Mrs. Beezji, was a Bengali Youth. It was usually used to feed school children with sweet beans or other similar sweets and water the engine from buckets. Extensions. Currently this station is directly connected to Karachi, Multan, Hyderabad, Peshawar, Rawalpindi, Lahore, Sargodha, Mari Indus and many other cities of the country. All class of cabins is available for the convinces of passengers. Railway has provided Assistant Operating Officers and Assistant Managers for the management of Station Faisalabad and its vicinity. Who are responsible for various arrangements for the convenience of the public? A hospital is established for the convenience of Railway staff. In which, apart from the medical officer, other staff are also appointed. A railway colony has been built on both sides of the station for staff accommodation. In which almost 40 percent of the railway staff reside. A railway engine shed is also established for the movement of vehicles. For the management of which there are charge man and fitters etc, in addition to the local foreman.^{xv} The Faisalabad Railway Station has all the essential facilities enclose a book stall on a platform, parking lot; advance reservation offices for ticket purchasing, drink, food, Parcel services and cargo.

Chenab Club

The Chenab Club was established in 1910. The officers came from other cities to Faisalabad mostly stayed the Canal bungalows. "From 1904 to 1910, the number of English officers of finance, Police, Agriculture, Railway, Health, Education, Rail, Post office had become so much that they felt Country and always remain integral part of the British Society ".^{xvi}

L. French and Popham Young were the last English Colonization officers of the region. Popham Young was stationed twice as Colonization officer in the Chenab Canal Colony from 25 October 1892 to 27 June 1893 and from 28 September 1893 to 31 March 1895. After the above period ended, Jhang left and later was posted in Punjab secretariat, Lahore. About 14 years later, in 1909, Popham Young donated Rupees 100 for the construction of Chenab Club. By this time other officers deducted part of their salaries of land from the department of mines and made the construction of the Club possible. The Club was constructed for off-duty British officers and its expenses were paid for by the officers themselves. 36 Club hungry persons set together to collect individual funds to plant a Club. The individual maximum contributing figure was Rs. 500, the minimum contribution was Rs 10. Thus, a meager amount of Rs 2591 was collected. One of the oldest clubs of Pakistan founded for elites. Conceived and founded by Deputy Commissioner M.W.Douglas. Situated right next to Company Garden now known as Bagh-e-Jinnah. Some of the

donors of Chenab Club were as follows: Sidney Preston, Messrs. Raleigh Brothers, Sermacworth Young, LM Jacob, Caption Popham Young CS, Lee Jones CS, Caption H. Lindsay, Hwmi Ways, JB Smith etc. The transformation of Lyallpur into modern-day Faisalabad is a compelling example of planned urbanization, colonial legacy, and post-independence development in South Asia. What began as a strategic agricultural hub under British canal colony schemes evolved into Pakistan's textile capital and a major urban center. Central to this transformation were not only economic and demographic shifts, but also the city's enduring landmarks—the Clock Tower, Eight Bazaars, Railway Station, Chenab Club, and Jinnah Garden—which continue to symbolize both its colonial origins and civic pride. These physical structures served as the nucleus of early urban life, enabling trade, social organization, and connectivity. Over time, the expansion of industrial estates, educational institutions, and transportation infrastructure propelled Faisalabad into a leading economic engine of the country. The city's evolution reflects the interplay between state planning, migrant settlement, entrepreneurial growth, and cultural resilience. As Faisalabad moves further into the 21st century, its historical layers—ranging from colonial planning to industrial innovation—offer valuable insights into how cities adapt, grow, and redefine their identities. Understanding this transformation is essential not only for appreciating Faisalabad's unique past but also for informing its future trajectory in an ever-changing regional and global context.

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